



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
District of Kansas

NEWS RELEASE

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KANSAS CITY, KANSAS, MAN CONVICTED ON DRUG AND GUN CHARGES

KANSAS CITY, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **Barry D. Nelson**, 28, Kansas City, Kansas, was convicted on September 3, 2004, in U.S. District Court in Kansas City, Kansas, following a four day jury trial. Nelson was convicted of two counts of distributing crack cocaine; one count of maintaining a residence for the purpose of distributing crack cocaine; one count of possession with the intent to distribute five grams or more (.176 ounces or more) of crack cocaine; one count of using a firearm during a drug trafficking crime; and one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Evidence presented at trial established that on February 12, 2004, and February 20, 2004, Nelson sold crack cocaine to an individual working with the Kansas City, Kansas, Police Department and that on February 25, 2004, law enforcement officers executed a search warrant at Nelson's residence on North 38th Street, Kansas City, Kansas, and found more than five grams of crack cocaine, \$4,800 in cash and a loaded weapon. Nelson had previously been convicted in 2000 in Wyandotte County District Court of possession of cocaine, a felony.

Nelson faces a maximum of twenty years in federal prison, without parole, on each count of distributing crack cocaine and for maintaining a residence for the purpose of distributing crack cocaine; a minimum of ten years and a maximum of forty years for distributing more than five grams of crack cocaine; a mandatory minimum five years for using a firearm during a drug trafficking crime; and a maximum of ten years for being a felon in possession of a firearm. Sentencing is set for November 22, 2004.

Melgren commended the excellent work of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department in this investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney Terra Morehead in this prosecution.

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